



Agriculture Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting

Haldimand County Administration Building

Monday May 15, 2019

Present: Councillor Metcalfe, Henk Lise (Chair), Stuart Heeg (Vice-Chair), Ron Young, Rick Armstrong, Jordan Fowler, Stephanie Campbell-Heron, Richard Blyleven, Nick Kinkel, OMAFRA

Staff: Lidy Romanuk, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism, Zach Gable Senior Economic Development Officer & Alison Earls, Division Support.

Regrets: Bruce Armstrong

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Senior Economic Development Officer at 6:04 p.m.

2. Council Update

Councillor Metcalfe introduced himself and provided an update on Council activities.

3. Nominations

Councillor Metcalfe opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. H. Lise accepted the nomination. Moved by R. Blyleven and seconded by S. Heeg to accept H. Lise as Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for 2019.

APPROVED

Councillor Metcalfe opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. S. Heeg Accepted the nomination. Moved by H. Lise and seconded by R. Blyleven to accept S. Heeg as Vice Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for 2019.

4. Approval of the Minutes (September 19, 2018)

Moved by R. Blyleven and seconded by S. Heeg that the Minutes of Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting dated September 19, 2018 be approved as presented.

APPROVED

5. Rural Water Quality Projects

L. Heyming provided an overview of the Rural Water Quality Program. S. Brocklebank then presented the Rural Water Quality projects being put forward at this meeting.

File # 72, Cover Crop Project was presented. Moved by R. Blyleven and seconded S. Heeg that the project be approved totaling \$1,000.

APPROVED

File # 72, Tree Planting Project was presented. Moved by R. Armstrong and seconded S. Heeg by that the project be denied.

APPROVED

File # 102, Livestock Access Restriction Watercourse Project was presented. Moved by R. Blyleven and seconded by S. Heeg that the project be approved totaling \$5,000.

APPROVED

File # 102, Tree Planting Project was presented. Moved by R. Young and seconded by S. Heeg that the project be approved totaling \$4,462.

APPROVED

File # 103, Livestock Access Restriction to Watercourse Project was presented. Moved by R. Blyleven and seconded S. Heeg by that the project be approved totaling \$5,000.

APPROVED

6. Term of Committee Future Goals

Staff provided an overview of the committees past focus and recommendations for future agenda items including:

- Identifying alternative viable cash crops
- Focus on attracting youth to the agriculture sector
- Attract large custom operators for custom planting
- Raise awareness for agriculture & the environment
- Increase processing opportunities
- Assist in marketing of niche products
- Increase agri-tourism opportunities
- Develop a strategic plan for the agriculture sector

7. EDT Staff Update

L. Romanuk provided an update on the Lake Erie Industrial Park and noted there were opportunities for agricultural processing on these lands. Staff also advised that Haldimand County's Council recently approved a new branding strategy for Economic Development and the logo has also been adopted as the new Corporate logo.

8. Business Arising

Committee members raised the following concerns:

Half-load ticketing is an issue that Haldimand County farmers were experiencing this season.

Members inquired if the soil from the Empire Homes development on McClung Road is being mixed before being moved offsite into a residential development.

Members noted that animal rights activists have been approaching farms in local communities and that the committee should discuss how to handle this issue with their local OPP detachment.

9. Adjourned at 8:03 pm

10. Next Meeting

Monday July 17th, 2019 from 6pm to 8pm

Haldimand County Administration Building 45 Munsee Street North, Cayuga